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THE NORTH CAROLINA TEACHERS ASSEMBLY

Its Program and Officers for 1922

THE PROGRAM

The 1922 program of the North Carolina Teachers Assembly, which holds its annual meeting in Raleigh, November 29 to December 1, inclusive, will probably reach the teachers of North Carolina by the time they receive this issue of the Journal. The program this year contains many interesting and worth-while features, only a few of which can be mentioned in this short article. Suffice it to say, the programs for both the general sessions and the departmental meetings have been carefully and thoughtfully prepared, and that anyone of them contains good things enough to repay any teacher in the state many times over for the expense of attending this annual gathering of state teachers.

On Wednesday afternoon, November 29, there will be the first business meeting of the Assembly.

Wednesday evening there will be an address by R. C. Moore, State Secretary of the Illinois State Teachers' Association.

Thursday morning at the preaching service there will be a Thanksgiving sermon by Dr. A. Paul Bagby of Wake Forest.

Thursday evening there will be first of all a musical program rendered by the school children of Raleigh under the direction of the gentleman in charge of the music in the public schools of Raleigh. This will be followed by the address of the evening by Miss Elizabeth Farrell who is the officer in the New York City Public Education in charge of the unclassified students.

Friday afternoon we will have the closing business session of the Assembly when the election of officers will take place and other miscellaneous matters will be attended to.

Friday evening the chief feature will be an address by Dr. Henry van Dyke.

The various departments, too, have prepared good programs, each dealing with some of the major problems of its specific field.

Among other matters that will be before the Assembly mention may be made of the following:

1. An attempt to help formulate public opinion for a continuance of the educational progress now being made in North Carolina.
2. Helping maintain the salary schedule for the teaching profession.
3. Consideration of the establishment of a research department for the Assembly, which will collect data and information about school laws and school work.
4. Correlation of the efforts of the State Association and the National Association of educational workers.
5. Consideration of ways and means whereby the Teachers Assembly may cooperate with the Parent-Teacher Associations and other agencies and organizations in the state looking towards the betterment of educational conditions in North Carolina generally.

THE OFFICERS

The two officials upon whom devolve most of the responsibility and nearly all of the work in connection with the annual meeting are the President and Secretary. Brief sketches of these two officials are presented herewith.

Dr. Brewer is a native North Carolinian who has devoted his life to educational work in his native state. He was born and reared at Wake Forest in Wake County. His first degree was taken at Wake Forest Col-

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DR. CHARLES E. BREWER, *President*



JULE B. WARREN, *Secretary*

as 35, and many up to thirty. The periods averaged 45 minutes, but some were as short as 30 and others as long as 60.

The majority of the courses were of the combination sort, offering literature and composition, both oral and written in a kind of unified course throughout the term. The average time spent in reading themes was therefore rather low, just over an hour per day, although the New Jersey standard puts it at seven hours per week.

The cry of many was "not enough time," and in support of it they offered an average number of three extra-curriculum activities which took from one to four (and these estimates are sure to be low) hours per week. 90% of those filling out the questionnaires reported extra-curriculum activities, ranging through such diverse subjects as reporting and community betterment, or coaching basketball.

The great majority favor a large and more active English Teachers' Association, embracing a membership of all English teachers, with publications and a membership fee. This would indicate that such a feeling is common among English teachers, and if it is general, will be a great force for improvement in the future.

Scarcely 10% of the group reported efforts at personal conferences, although this is recognized as one of the most important considerations in the teaching of English. Few had made use of projects, and although the majority mentioned efforts at correlation, none stated definitely the results they had obtained.

Space will not permit a tabulation of replies to all the questions, but enough have been given to show some necessity for a survey in North Carolina, and to hint at the conditions which exist among English teachers.

It is evident that a survey such as the English Council is contemplating cannot be made unless every English teacher in the state is made fully aware of its importance, and unless every English teacher takes an interest and feels an individual responsibility in the project. The questionnaire will be mailed to English teachers all over the state sometime during December, and should be returned to the committee headquarters at Chapel Hill within a period of two weeks. Each teacher is asked to fill it out as completely and carefully as possible, and to bear in mind that the Council is interested in conditions as they are, with an eye to suggestions for improvement. Much good can be done for the overburdened English teacher, if an exact statement of the conditions together with a statement

of the ideal conditions is placed in the hands of every high school principal and county superintendent in the state.

The material and answers given in the questionnaires will be treated in strict secrecy by the committee, and nothing will be published which might in any way do harm to the individual teacher. As a rule, the individual teacher's answers to the questions will not receive separate treatment in the report. In some rare instances, it may be necessary to mention an individual answer, where it is distinctive. In any case, the teacher's name will not appear. Therefore no teacher need fear to answer the questionnaire fully and frankly.

The committee is anxious to have suggestions as to questions which should be included in the questionnaire, methods of securing prompt and careful answers, and any other matters which suggest themselves.

Letters may be addressed to Prof. C. A. Hibbard, Chapel Hill, President of the State Council, or to Mr. A. C. Howell, Chairman of the Committee.

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lege. He later spent two years in graduate work at Johns Hopkins University. He returned to his *alma mater* in 1889 as Professor of Chemistry, which position he held until 1915. From 1912 to 1915, Dr. Brewer was Dean of Wake Forest College. In the summer of 1915 he was chosen President of Meredith College, Raleigh, which position he now holds. Since Dr. Brewer became President of Meredith he has so strengthened and developed the institution that today it stands in the fore-rank of higher institutions for women in the Southern states.

Mr. Warren was born in Durham County in 1887 and received his early training in the rural schools of his native county and in the city schools of Durham. He graduated from Trinity College in 1908 and taught history and science in Gastonia, N. C., where he was principal of the Gastonia High School. After leaving school work Mr. Warren took up newspaper work in Durham. Later he went to Raleigh where he served as correspondent for many state papers. During his newspaper career Mr. Warren has "covered" four history making sessions of the legislature at which sessions the major portion of our present school legislation was enacted. He was chosen secretary of the Teachers Assembly last August and has been busily engaged since that time with the duties of his office.